

Wodonga Albury Towards Climate Health

WATCHWORD 18.10.17

#StopAdani Albury Wodonga

Day of Action, Saturday 7th October

What a fabulous turn-out on Gateway Village. We had a strong crowd of 400 people including Prof Kate Auty, the ACT's Commissioner for Sustainability and Environment. Everyone did a great job of pulling this together, but it wouldn't have happened if it wasn't for Tracey Esler's supreme efforts.

Please read this Border Mail article to get a feel for the occasion:

<http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/4972431/adani-mine-fury-rings-out-loud-and-clear-in-wodonga/?cs=11> For photos and videos of our actions and to be kept abreast of breaking news please go to: <https://www.facebook.com/StopAdaniAlburyWodonga/>

Jaunt down Dean St, Saturday October 28th, 11am

This will be starting at the park next to Baker Motors at the foot of the pedestrian bridge. We will be carrying the #STOP ADANI letters up and down Dean St for about 30-60 mins. If you plan to take part, drop Les Langmead a text on [0429 959 605](tel:0429959605) or an email with your mobile phone number in it to leslangmead@gmail.com.

Midnight Oil concert, Friday 3rd November

SAAW has been given permission to run a stall inside the Midnight Oil concert at Gateway Island. Please contact Tracey Esler asap if you can man the stall or help outside tesesler@gmail.com

Next SAAW meeting

The next meeting date is Thursday 9th November, 6pm at the SAC. RSVP to Tracey Esler: tesesler@gmail.com

More on Adani

Digging into Adani - Four Corners

<http://www.abc.net.au/4corners/digging-into-adani/9008500>

Australia debates: Does warming planet really need more coal?

Brilliant to see this comprehensive coverage in the NY Times.

mobile.nytimes.com/2017/10/14/world/australia/australia-adani-carmichael-coal-mine.html

Join Midnight Oil: Stop Adani's \$1b Public Loan! Petition - Australian Marine Conservation Society

<https://www.marineconservation.org.au/petitions.php?id=190>

Letters in the Border Mail

Abbott might be funny, if only it wasn't so serious

Here's an excellent letter from David Macilwain:

<http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/4982116/you-say-abbott-might-be-funny-if-only-it-wasnt-so-serious/?cs=52>

Survey on Adani

Jan Hastings wrote a brilliant letter about ABC's Four Corners and Adani. Her letter prompted a Border Mail online survey. Here's the link - you'll need to scroll down the page a little way:

<http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/4962203/you-say-gouging-of-vanners-and-campers-is-short-sighted/?cs=52>

And here's a letter from Rebecca Williams which has prompted the Border Mail to rejuvenate its online survey about Adani. Scroll past the first survey to the 'Do you Support Adani' one. If you have not already done so, please vote ASAP! Here's the link:

<http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/4976669/you-say-refuse-those-who-would-be-rude-let-the-push-begin/?cs=52>

And finally please read this letter from Edward Minty, aimed at climate deniers and, specifically, Tony Abbott: <http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/4946751/you-say-will-tony-abbott-be-at-funerals-to-apologise/?cs=52>

Ecoportal

<http://www.ecoportal.net.au>

Ecoportal is your online directory, listing groups and events for sustainable living in Albury-Wodonga, North East Victoria and Southern New South Wales. Follow Ecoportal on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Ecoportal.net.au?fref=nf>

October <http://ecoportal.net.au/events/2017-10/>

November <http://ecoportal.net.au/events/2017-11/>

Selected events

Sustainable Living Month

November is Sustainable Living Month in Albury Wodonga so check Ecoportal for lots of great events!

Dr Karl Kruszelnicki and Stan Grant

Wednesday October 25th, 12:30 pm - 5pm, Albury Entertainment Centre, Main Auditorium Theatre

<http://ecoportal.net.au/event/general-admissions-to-dr-karl-kruszelnicki-and-stan-grant/>

Aussie Backyard Bird Count, October 23rd – 29th

Take part in this year's Aussie Backyard Bird Count during National Bird Week– simply download the app from aussiebirdcount.org.au and get started!

Guided Backyard Bird Count – Baranduda, Sunday October 29th, 10- 11:30 am

<http://ecoportal.net.au/event/aussie-backyard-bird-count-guided-count-baranduda/>

Spring Wild Pollinator Count begins, Sunday November 12th

<http://ecoportal.net.au/event/wild-pollinator-count-begins-sp17/>

Albury-Wodonga Sustainable Living Fair, Saturday November 18th, 9am - 1pm, Wodonga Junction Square

<http://ecoportal.net.au/event/albury-wodonga-sustainable-living-fair/>

Living Lightly

Living Lightly is published every Wednesday in the Border Mail and published on the Ecoportal website www.ecoportal.net.au/articles/. These 380 word articles are published every Wednesday in the Border Mail. Karen Bowley has requested that you keep sending her your articles so this popular column is able to continue. Please email them to kbowley53@gmail.com

Recent articles

[Shopping with a Conscience](#) By Lizette Salmon, Sustainable Living Festival event officer

[Reducing Waste](#) By Lizette Salmon, Sustainable Living Festival event officer

[Stop Adani Day of Action](#) By Natasha Kronenberg, StopAdani Albury-Wodonga member

[What is Permaculture?](#) By Natasha Stafford, permaculturalist, Albury

What's going on in Yackandandah??

'Community renewable energy – a way forward', Friday 1st December

Totally Renewable Yackandandah (TRY) along with Yackandandah Community Development Company (YCDCo) warmly invite you to this Forum: 'Community Renewable Energy – A Way Forward'. This exciting event is to be held during the afternoon on Friday 1st December. Come along to be inspired and provoked! Speakers include Dr John Hewson and Professor Kate Auty. For more details and to register go to <https://www.trybooking.com/322586> For further information contact Denis Ginnivan, Committee Event Coordinator, 0412 503 498

North East energy group among national award finalists

<http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/4977242/north-east-energy-group-among-national-award-finalists/>

Renewable dream becomes reality in solar power switch on

<http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/4954647/renewable-dream-becomes-reality-in-solar-power-switch-on/?cs=11>

Yackandandah's solar plan (video) PRIME7 - Yahoo7

<https://au.prime7.yahoo.com/v1/news/a/-/local/37270007/yackandandahs-solar-plan-video/>

McGowan tells government to 'move quicker' on solar energy

<http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/4988428/mcgowan-tells-government-to-move-quicker-on-solar-energy/?cs=11>

Squirrel gliders

[Squirrel Glider production \(video\)](#)

Students from Burrumbuttock and Walla Walla were treated to a special world premiere. "Gliding into the Future" has been specially written to highlight the plight of Australia's endangered Squirrel Glider population.

Nest box experience resonates with young and old

Parklands Albury Wodonga rangers have delivered a series of nest box field days on behalf of the Wodonga Urban Landcare Group over the past few months. Participants of all ages have been treated to close encounters with Squirrel Gliders via some 'pretty cool' technology and have learned how to install boxes and use monitoring equipment. Enquiries regarding joining the Nest Box Network citizen science project are most welcome. Please contact Parklands at info@parklands-alburywodonga.org.au

[Nest box guide for North East Victoria](#)

The Norman Wettenhall Foundation is funding a project to consolidate and update nest box information in North East Victoria and they need your help! If you have been involved in a nest box project or are looking to start a project in your community group or organisation, please fill out their online survey. For more information, contact project coordinator Sally Day on 0437 136 162. [Take the survey...](#)

RN Breakfast interviews

Here are three great interviews on Radio National with the wonderful Fran Kelly. The first is with Oliver Yates, ex CEO of the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC), who doesn't mince his words about certain issues! http://mpegmedia.abc.net.au/rn/podcast/2017/10/bst_20171010_0650.mp3

The second interview is a senior fire person making some links between fire and climate change.

They are pretty delicately worded links but at least they are there:

http://mpegmedia.abc.net.au/rn/podcast/2017/10/bst_20171011_0636.mp3

In the third interview, Ross Garnaut talks about the scheme to operate the Whyalla steelworks primarily on renewable energy including a large solar farm, wind, pumped storage and batteries:

http://mpegmedia.abc.net.au/rn/podcast/2017/09/bst_20170921_0649.mp3 And here's an item about

Whyalla on ABC's 7.30 report: <http://www.abc.net.au/7.30/can-renewable-energy-power-a-steel-mill/8965796>

Energy news

Subsidies for renewables will go under Malcolm Turnbull's power plan

The government is set to unveil its long-awaited energy plan that would scrap subsidies for renewables and impose obligations on power companies to source a certain proportion of "reliable" supply. Read what Michelle Grattan has to say.

Baffled by baseload? Dumbfounded by dispatchables? Here's a glossary of the energy debate

Australia's energy market is a prominent fixture in our daily news cycle. Amid the endless ideology and politics swirling around the sector, technical terms such as "baseload power" and "dispatchable generation" are thrown around so often that there is a danger the meaning of these terms can get lost in the public debate.

Australia's politics only barrier to clean energy system, report finds

Politics is the only barrier to modernising Australia's ageing electricity system, according to a report by the Climate Council.

Climate updates

Sydney, Melbourne urged to prepare for 50C days by end of century

Sydney and Melbourne have been warned to prepare for scorcher days reaching 50 degrees Celsius by the end of the century — even if global warming is contained to the Paris Agreement target of a 2C increase.

Liberal statesman tells Malcolm Turnbull to stand and fight Tony Abbott on climate

<http://www.smh.com.au/federal-politics/political-news/liberal-statesman-tells-malcolm-turnbull-to-stand-and-fight-tony-abbott-on-climate-20171011-gyypm7.html>

'Tide has turned': Global rating agency says climate economics trump politics

<http://www.smh.com.au/environment/climate-change/tide-has-turned-global-rating-agency-says-climate-economics-trump-politics-20171012-gyzhey.html>

Food for thought

For whom the bell tolls: cats kill more than a million Australian birds every day

Cats kill more than a million birds every day across Australia, according to our new estimate – the first robust attempt to quantify the problem on a nationwide scale.

Good news stories

RACV assists Bhutanese Community

Getting to the Bhutanese Community Farm on Gateway Island just became much, much easier for staff and volunteers. A second hand 4WD vehicle was purchased with funds provided by the RACV Community Foundation. The vehicle will double as a workhorse and transport vehicle, transporting older and socially isolated refugees to participate in volunteer work on the community farm and delivering the farm's fresh produce. Just wonderful! http://www.parklands-alburywodonga.org.au/news-events/latest-news/PL_28-September-17_1474.asp

Tiny House Project social enterprise thinks outside the square

<http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/4921524/tiny-house-project-social-enterprise-thinks-outside-the-square/?cs=11>

Rural Rwanda is home to a pioneering new solar power idea

<http://www.bbc.com/future/story/20171009-rural-rwanda-is-home-to-a-pioneering-new-solar-power-idea>

Thanks again to everyone who has provided content for this newsletter. Last newsletter for 2017 is due out on 13th December.

WATCH meetings

WATCH usually meets every second month in central Albury. We offer plenty of opportunities to take positive action. The next meeting will be in February 2018. WATCHWORD will continue to be published in the meantime.

Website

Please check our website: www.watch.id.au

Facebook

And follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/wodongaandalburytowardclimatehealth>

WATCH email address: watch.albwod@gmail.com

Warm regards,

Jenny Davies